

[25 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

the Madhya Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation and procured foodgrains are distributed from their godowns. Presently, there is no plan to open more base depots in Madhya Pradesh.

Mobile Vans for distribution of commodities

† 3314. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of mobile vans operating in remote tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh for distribution, arrangement of foodgrains, Kerosene etc. alongwith the further requirement of such vans in this regard;

(b) the amount of financial assistance being provided by Government for this purpose and whether financial aid is provided for maintenance and operation of these vans;

(c) if not, whether any grant would be provided to compensate the loss to be suffered by the State; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) Under the Centrally sponsored Scheme of 'Purchase of Vans' for strengthening of Public Distribution System (PDS) Government of Madhya Pradesh has been provided financial assistance for purchase of 164 vans since 1985-86. These vans are for use of PDS operations specially in remote, hilly, rural and tribal areas.

(b) The assistance is in the form of 50% of subsidy and 50% loan is on the actual cost of the vehicle including the cost of fabrication as per the following norms:

(i) For mobile vans of capacity of 4 tonnes or above, the financial assistance for each vehicle is restricted to Rs. 4 lakhs or actual cost whichever is less.

(ii) For mobile trucks of capacity 8 tonnes or above financial assistance for each vehicle is restricted to Rs. 8 lakhs or the actual cost whichever is less.

(c) and (d) As per the guidelines of the scheme maintenance and operational costs of the vehicles purchased under the scheme are to be borne by the State

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Government/UT Administration concerned. No financial assistance is provided by the Central Government in this regard.

Rice recovery from rice mills

† 3315. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of recovery fixed from each of the rice mills situated in the various parts of the country alongwith the details State-wise; and

(b) the reasons for fixing 67-68 per cent rice recovery for Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) The quantum of recovery (Out-turn-ratio) has been fixed at the uniform rate of 67 per cent and 68 per cent for raw rice and par-boiled rice, respectively, for all States;

(b) This uniform rate has been fixed based on the recommendations of the Gokak committee during 1994-95 which considered the results of trial milling conducted by three specialised and scientific institutions viz. CFTRI, Mysore, IIT, Kharagpur and PPRC, Thanjavur in various States.

Misuse of Power under Essential commodities Act

3316. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the powers to search and seize under Essential Commodities Act have been delegated to the Oil Corporation officers and police officials;

(b) whether it is a fact that this act only deals with the distribution of essential commodities to the genuine consumers at fixed price and the quality of the product is dealt by the provisions of Bureau of Indian Standards and other relevant acts; and

(c) what action is taken by Government against the officers for the misuse of powers under Essential Commodities Act?

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